

# Error Estimates for non-conforming FE discretization

Conforming error estimates used Cea's Lemma;  
however, here not subspaces of standard form:

$$-\Delta u = f \text{ in } \Omega, u = 0 \text{ on } \partial\Omega, \Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^2 \text{ polygonal}$$

$\{\mathcal{T}_h\}$  family of regular triangulations of  $\Omega$  consisting  
of triangles & quads. satisfying  $(\mathcal{T}_{h,1}) - (\mathcal{T}_{h,5})$ ,

$$\forall T \in \mathcal{T}_h : (T, P_T, \bar{\Sigma}_T) \text{ affine-equivalent to } (T, \bar{P}, \bar{\Sigma})$$

$$\text{Assume } P_k(T) \subset P_T \subset H^k(T) \quad \forall T \in \mathcal{T}_h \text{ (with some } k \geq 1)$$

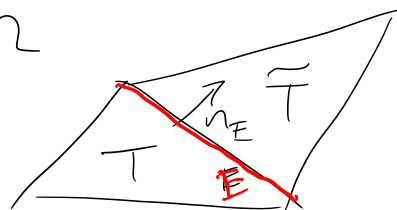
FE spaces:

$$V_h = \left\{ v_h \in L^2(\Omega) : v_h|_T \in P_T \quad \forall T \in \mathcal{T}_h, \int_E [[v_h]]_E \varphi ds = 0 \right. \\ \left. \forall \varphi \in P_{k-1}(E) \quad \forall E \in \mathcal{E}_h \right\}$$

$\mathcal{E}_h$  - set of edges of  $\mathcal{T}_h$ ,  $n_E$  - unit normal to  $E$ .

$$[[v_h]]_E = (v_h|_T)|_E - (v_h|\bar{T})|_E \text{ for } E \notin \partial\Omega$$

$$[[v_h]]_E = v_h|_E \text{ for } E \subset \partial\Omega$$



$$V_h \sim H_0^1(\Omega) \text{ but } V_h \not\subset H^1(\Omega)$$

$$\text{Weak formulation: } u \in H_0^1(\Omega) : a(u, v) = (f, v) \quad \forall v \in H_0^1(\Omega)$$

$$a(u, v) = \int_{\Omega} \nabla u \cdot \nabla v dx$$

$$\text{Discrete problem: } u_h \in V_h : a_h(u_h, v_h) = (f, v_h) \quad \forall v_h \in V_h$$

$$a_h(u, v) = \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h} \int_T \nabla u \cdot \nabla v dx$$

$$\|v\|_{1,h} = \left[ \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h} \|v\|_{1,T}^2 \right]^{1/2} \text{ is a norm in } V_h.$$

Clearly  $\|v\|_{1,h}$  is a semi-norm.

Let  $\|v_h\|_{1,h} = 0$  for some  $v_h \in V_h$ . Then,  $\|v_h\|_{1,T} = 0 \quad \forall T \in \mathcal{T}_h$   
 $\Rightarrow \|v_h\|_T = 0 \quad \forall T \in \mathcal{T}_h \Rightarrow v_h|_T = \text{const} \quad \forall T \in \mathcal{T}_h$

Consider any interior edge  $E \in \mathcal{E}_h$ . Then,

$$\int_E \underbrace{[[v_h]]_E}_{\text{const}} ds = 0 \Rightarrow [[v_h]]_E = 0 \Rightarrow v_h|_T = v_h|\tilde{T} \quad \text{for } T, \tilde{T} \supseteq E$$

$\Rightarrow v_h = \text{const}$  in  $\Omega$ .

Consider any  $E \subset \partial\Omega$ . Then  $0 = \int_E [[v_h]]_E ds = \int_E v_h ds = v_h |E|$

$\Rightarrow v_h = 0$

$\Rightarrow v_h = 0$  on  $\partial\Omega$ , constant on  $T$ ,  $\forall T \in \mathcal{T}_h$  & on  $F \in \mathcal{E}_h$

$\Rightarrow v_h = 0$  on whole space

$\Rightarrow \|\cdot\|_{1,h}$  is norm of  $V_h$

Recall conforming case:

$$\text{AVP: } u \in V \quad a(u, v) = \langle f, v \rangle \quad \forall v \in V$$

$$\text{D.Z.C.: } u_h \in V_h \quad a(u_h, v_h) = \langle f, v_h \rangle \quad \forall v_h \in V_h$$

$$V_h \subset V: \quad a(u, v_h) = \langle f, v_h \rangle \quad \forall v_h \in V_h \quad (\text{consistency})$$

Let's assume  $u \in H^2(\Omega)$ .

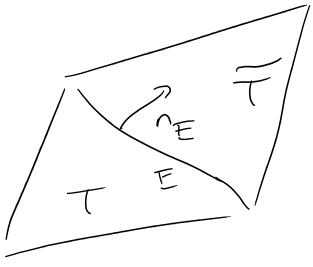
$$\forall v \in C_0^\infty(\Omega): \quad (f, v) = a(u, v) = \int_\Omega \nabla u \cdot \nabla v \, dx = - \int_\Omega \Delta u \, v \, dx$$

$\Rightarrow -\Delta u = f$  a.e. in  $\Omega$ .

$$- \int_T \Delta u \cdot v_h = \int_T f v_h \quad \forall v_h \in V_h, T \in \mathcal{T}_h$$

$$\sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h} \int_T \nabla u \cdot \nabla v_h \, dx = \sum_T \int_{\partial T} \frac{\partial u}{\partial n_T} v_h \, ds = \sum_T \int_T f v_h \, dx$$

$$\Rightarrow a_h(u, v_h) = (f, v_h) + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h} \int_{\partial T} \frac{\partial u}{\partial n_T} v_h ds$$



$$\begin{aligned} & \int_E \frac{\partial u}{\partial n_T} v_h|_T ds + \int_E \frac{\partial u}{\partial n_{\bar{T}}} v_h|_{\bar{T}} ds \\ &= \int_E \frac{\partial u}{\partial n_E} v_h|_T ds - \int_E \frac{\partial u}{\partial n_E} v_h|_{\bar{T}} ds \\ &= \int_E \frac{\partial u}{\partial n_E} \llbracket v_h \rrbracket ds \end{aligned}$$

$$\forall E \in \mathcal{C}(\mathcal{T}_h) \quad \int_E \frac{\partial u}{\partial n_T} v_h ds = \int_E \frac{\partial u}{\partial n_E} \llbracket v_h \rrbracket_E ds$$

$$\Rightarrow a_h(u, v_h) = \underbrace{(f, v_h)}_{a_h(u, v_h)} + \underbrace{\sum_{E \in \mathcal{E}_h} \int_E \frac{\partial u}{\partial n_E} \llbracket v_h \rrbracket_E ds}_{\text{consistency error}} \quad \forall v_h \in V_h$$

$$\Rightarrow a_h(u - u_h, v_h) = \sum_{E \in \mathcal{E}_h} \int_E \frac{\partial u}{\partial n_E} \llbracket v_h \rrbracket_E ds$$

Consider any  $v_h, w_h \in V_h$ . Then,

$$\sup_{w_h \in V_h} \frac{a_h(v_h - u_h, w_h)}{|w_h|_{1,h}} \leq \sup_{w_h \in V_h} \frac{a_h(v_h - u, w_h)}{|w_h|_{1,h}} + \sup_{w_h \in V_h} \frac{a_h(u - u_h, w_h)}{|w_h|_{1,h}}$$

$$|u_h - v_h|_{1,h} + |u - v_h|_{1,h} \leq 2|u - v_h|_{1,h} + \sup_{w_h \in V_h} \frac{a_h(u - u_h, w_h)}{|w_h|_{1,h}}$$

$$\Rightarrow |u - u_h|_{1,h} \leq 2|u - v_h|_{1,h} + \sup_{w_h \in V_h} \frac{a_h(u - u_h, w_h)}{|w_h|_{1,h}} \quad \forall v_h \in V_h$$

$$\leq 2 \inf_{v_h \in V_h} |u - v_h|_{1,h} + \sup_{w_h \in V_h} \frac{\sum_{E \in \mathcal{E}_h} \int_E \frac{\partial u}{\partial n_E} \llbracket w_h \rrbracket_E ds}{|w_h|_{1,h}}$$

For any edge  $E$ , we define the orthogonal projection  $\mu_E^k: L^2(E) \xrightarrow{\text{orth}} P_k(E)$ ;

$$\text{i.e., } \int_E (v - \mu_E^k v) q \, ds = 0 \quad \forall q \in P_k(E), \forall v \in L^2(E).$$

Lemma  $\exists C > 0$  such that for all  $T \in \mathcal{T}_h, E \subset T$ ,  $v \in H^1(T)$  &  $z \in H^{k+1}(\Omega)$

$$\left| \int_E v(z - \mu_E^k z) \, ds \right| \leq C h_E^{k+1} \|v\|_{1,T} \|z\|_{k+1,T}$$

Proof



$$F(\hat{T}) = T, \quad F(\hat{E}) = E$$

$$\int_E v \, ds = \int_{\hat{E}} \hat{v} \omega \, d\hat{s}$$

$$|E| = |\hat{E}| \omega$$

$$\hat{v} = v \circ F$$

$$\Rightarrow \int_E v \, ds = \frac{|E|}{|\hat{E}|} \int_{\hat{E}} \hat{v} \, d\hat{s}$$

$$\mu_{\hat{E}}^k: L^2(\hat{E}) \rightarrow P_k(\hat{E})$$

$$\int_{\hat{E}} (\hat{v} - \mu_{\hat{E}}^k \hat{v}) \hat{q} \, d\hat{s} = 0 \quad \forall \hat{q} \in P_k(\hat{E}), \hat{v} \in L^2(\hat{E})$$

For any  $v \in L^2(E), q \in P_k(E)$

$$0 = \int_E (v - \mu_E^k v) q \, ds = \frac{|E|}{|\hat{E}|} \int_{\hat{E}} (\hat{v} - \mu_{\hat{E}}^k \hat{v}) \hat{q} \, d\hat{s}$$

$$\hat{v} \in L^2(\hat{E}), \hat{q} \in P_k(\hat{E}) \Rightarrow \mu_{\hat{E}}^k \hat{v} = \mu_{\hat{E}}^k \hat{v}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \int_E v(z - \mu_E^k z) ds &= \frac{|E|}{|\hat{E}|} \int_{\hat{E}} \hat{v}(\hat{z} - \mu_E^k \hat{z}) d\hat{s} \\ &= \frac{|E|}{|\hat{E}|} \int_{\hat{E}} (\hat{v} - c)(\hat{z} - \mu_E^k \hat{z}) d\hat{s} \quad \forall c \in P_0(\hat{T}) \\ &\leq \frac{|E|}{|\hat{E}|} \|\hat{v} - c\|_{0,\hat{E}} \|\hat{z} - \mu_E^k \hat{z}\|_{0,\hat{E}} \end{aligned}$$

$$\circ \mu_E^k \hat{q} = \hat{q} \quad \forall \hat{q} \in P_k(\hat{E})$$

$$\circ \|\mu_E^k \hat{z}\|_{0,\hat{E}} \leq \|\hat{z}\|_{0,\hat{E}} \quad \forall \hat{z} \in L^2(\hat{E})$$

$$\int_{\hat{E}} (\mu_E^k \hat{z}) \hat{q} d\hat{s} = \int_{\hat{E}} \hat{z} \hat{q} d\hat{s} \quad \forall \hat{q} \in P_k(\hat{E})$$

$$\text{Let } \hat{q} = \mu_E^k \hat{v} \Rightarrow \|\mu_E^k \hat{z}\|_{0,\hat{E}}^2 \leq \|\hat{z}\|_{0,\hat{E}} \|\mu_E^k \hat{v}\|_{0,\hat{E}}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \circ \|\hat{z} - \mu_E^k \hat{z}\|_{0,\hat{E}} &= \|\hat{z} + \hat{q} - \mu_E^k (\hat{z} + \hat{q})\|_{0,\hat{E}} \quad \forall \hat{q} \in P_k(\hat{T}) \\ &\leq \|\hat{z} + \hat{q}\|_{0,\hat{E}} + \|\mu_E^k (\hat{z} + \hat{q})\|_{0,\hat{E}} \\ &\leq 2 \|\hat{z} + \hat{q}\|_{0,\hat{E}} \\ &\leq C \|\hat{z} + \hat{q}\|_{1,\hat{T}} \end{aligned} \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \\ \\ \end{array} \right\} \text{(Remark from Trace Theorem)}$$

$$\circ \|\hat{v} - c\|_{0,\hat{E}} \leq C \|\hat{v} - c\|_{1,\hat{T}}$$

$$\Rightarrow \left| \int_E v(z - \mu_E^k z) ds \right| \leq Ch_E \|\hat{v} - c\|_{1,\hat{T}} \|z + q\|_{1,\hat{T}} \quad \forall c \in P_0(\hat{T}), \forall q \in P_0(\hat{E})$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{---} \mu \text{---} \leq Ch_E \inf_{c \in P_0(\hat{T})} \|\hat{v} - c\|_{1,\hat{T}} \inf_{q \in P_0(\hat{E})} \|z + q\|_{1,\hat{T}}$$

$$\leq \bar{C} h_E |\hat{v}|_{1,\hat{T}} |z|_{k+1,\hat{T}}$$

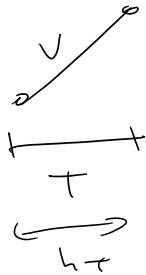
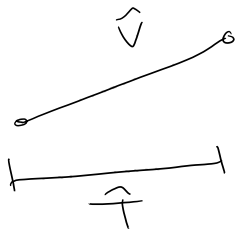
$$\leq \bar{C} h_E^{k+1} |v|_{1,\hat{T}} |z|_{k+1,\hat{T}}$$

$$|\hat{z}|_{k+1, \tau} \leq C h_\tau^k |z|_{k+1, \tau}$$

$$|\hat{v}|_{1, \tau} \leq C |v|_{1, \tau}$$

"Scaling argument":

$$\Gamma |z|_{k+1, \tau} = \left[ \int_{\Gamma} \left( \frac{\partial^{k+1} z}{\partial x^{k+1}} \right)^2 \right]^{1/2} \sim \underbrace{(h_\tau^2)^{1/2}}_{\sim |\Gamma|} \left( \frac{1}{h_\tau} \right)^{k+1} = h_\tau^{-k}$$



$$v \sim \frac{1}{h_\tau} \left( \int_{\Gamma} (v')^2 \right)^{1/2} \sim \left[ h_\tau \left( \frac{1}{h_\tau} \right)^2 \right]^{1/2} \sim h_\tau^{-1/2}$$

Now, return to the error analysis:

$$|u - u_h|_{1, h} \leq 2 \inf_{v_h \in V_h} |u - v_h|_{1, h} + \sup_{w_h \in V_h} \frac{\sum_{E \in \mathcal{E}_h} \int_E \frac{\partial u}{\partial n_E} \llbracket w_h \rrbracket_{E^s} ds}{|w_h|_{1, h}}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \int_E \frac{\partial u}{\partial n_E} \llbracket w_h \rrbracket ds &= \int_E \left( \frac{\partial u}{\partial n_E} - \mu_E^{k-1} \frac{\partial u}{\partial n_E} \right) \llbracket w_h \rrbracket ds \\ &= \int_E (\dots) w_h|_{\Gamma} ds - \int_E (\dots) w_h|_{\tilde{\Gamma}} ds \\ &\leq C h_E^k |w_h|_{1, \Gamma} \left| \frac{\partial u}{\partial n_E} \right|_{k, \Gamma} + (C h_E^k |w_h|_{1, \tilde{\Gamma}} \left| \frac{\partial u}{\partial n_E} \right|_{k, \tilde{\Gamma}}) \\ &\leq \tilde{C} h_E^k |u|_{k+1, \Gamma \cup \tilde{\Gamma}} \left( |w_h|_{1, \Gamma} + |w_h|_{1, \tilde{\Gamma}} \right) \end{aligned}$$

( $\frac{\partial u}{\partial n} = (\nabla u) \cdot n_E$ )

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \sum_{E \in \mathcal{E}_h} \int_E \frac{\partial u}{\partial n_E} \llbracket w_h \rrbracket ds &\leq C h^k \left( \sum_{E \in \mathcal{E}_h} |u|_{k+1, \Gamma \cup \tilde{\Gamma}_E}^2 \right)^{1/2} \\ &\quad \times \left( \sum_{E \in \mathcal{E}_h} (|w_h|_{1, \Gamma_E}^2 + |w_h|_{1, \tilde{\Gamma}_E}^2) \right)^{1/2} \\ &\leq \tilde{C} h^k |u|_{k+1, \Omega} |w_h|_{1, h} \end{aligned}$$

Since  $V_h \supset \tilde{V}_h := \{v_h \in C(\bar{\Omega}) \cap H_0^1(\Omega); v|_T \in P_k(T) \forall T \in \mathcal{T}_h\}$

$$\inf_{v_h \in V_h} \|u - v_h\|_{1,h} \leq \inf_{v_h \in \tilde{V}_h} \underbrace{\|u - v_h\|_{1,\Omega}}_{\in H^1(\Omega)} \leq \|u - \Pi_h u\|_{1,\Omega} \leq Ch^k \|u\|_{k+1,\Omega}$$

↑  
Lagrange int.

$$\Rightarrow \|u - u_h\|_{1,h} \leq Ch^k \|u\|_{k+1,\Omega} \quad (\text{if } u \in H^{k+1}(\Omega)).$$